Decrease in Cultivation land size

†2752. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a constant decrease in the cultivated land holding of farmers in the country during the last many years;

(b) if so, the average size of the cultivated land-holding in the country at present;

(c) whether it is a fact that cultivation in this size of a holding has become economically unviable; and

(d) if so, Government reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per Agricultural Censuses 1970-71, 1976-77, 1980-81, 1985-86 and 1990-91, the average size per holding (in hectare) was 2.28, 2.00, 1.84, 1.69 and 1.55 respectively. The latest all-India results of Agricultural Census relate to agricultural year 1990-91.

(c) and (d) The viability of an agricultural holding depands upon a variety of factors including agro-climatic, level of use of agricultural input, availability of irrigation facilities, crop variety sown and the entrepreneurial skill of the farmer. No conclusive evidence is available regarding relationship between size of the holding and its economic viability.

Increase in production rate of crops

†2753. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the increase in production rate of various crops in the country during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details of annual rates of production of wheat, sugarcane, cotton, paddy, oilseeds and pulses, during the said years, separately; and

(c) the details regarding the targeted rates of production of each of these foodgrains during the said years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The rates of production of wheat, sugarcane, cotton, paddy, oilseeds and pulses for 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 are given in the Table below:

(in Kg./hectare)

	All India Average Rate of Production		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01@
Wheat	2590	2755	2742
Sugarcane	71203	70825	69550
Cotton	224	226	190
Paddy	2882	2985	2891
Nine Oilseeds	944	856	790
Pulses	634	630	553

@ Advance Estimates as on 29-6-2001

(c) The Government fix targets of production of major crops

instead of rates of production. The statement giving the targets and achievements of major crops for the years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 is given in the statement.

Statement

Targets and Achievements of Production of Major Crops in 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

(Million Tonnes)

S.No.	Crop/Group of Crops	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01	
		Targets	Pro-duc-tion	Targets	Pro-duc-tion	Targets	Pro-duc-tion*
1.	Wheat	74.00	71.29	74.00	75.57	74.00	68.46
2.	Rice	86.00	86.08	86.00	89.48	90.00	86.30
3.	Pulses	15.50	14.91	15.50	13.35	15.00	11.06
4.	Oilseeds	27.00	24.75	27.00	20.87	28.00	18.20
5.	Sugarcane	300.00	288.72	305.00	299.23	325.00	300.32
6.	Cotton#	14.80	12.29	15.00	11.64	14.50	9.39

 # Million Bales of 170 kg. Each

*** As per Advance Estimates on 29.6.2001**